

## THE LOVE OF GOD

### 2 Corinthians 13:11

**Introduction:** "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so...." is perhaps the first "Bible" song that our children learn in Sunday School. As adults, we have other songs/hymns we sing that express God's love for and to us in some way or other. There are sermons, Sunday School lessons, and our own personal experiences of God's love. Sometimes, however, we mistake trying to understand God's love by comparing His love with what we call "love."

### I. GOD IS LOVE

1. *2 Corinthians 12:11; 1 John 4:7-8*
2. "God is Love" is preached from the pulpit and many a lost person hearing words of God's love just cannot believe that God could love him/her.
3. People who don't know God cannot understand God's kind of love because the only kind of love they know is their own kind. The human kind of love.
4. Do we, as believers, teach that as long as we are good, God will love us, but when we are bad God stops loving us? If we do, then we don't know God's kind of love.
5. God hates sin, yes, but God still loves the sinner.
6. Our love is in no way like God's love, so it's hard enough for a believer to try to understand God's love, so it's practically impossible for a non-believer to understand God's kind of love.

### II. GOD'S LOVE IS UNCHANGEABLE

1. *John 13:11, 27* - Did Jesus love Judas?
  - *Luke 22:48* - Did Jesus still love Judas?
  - *John 16:27* - Did Jesus love Peter and the rest who ran away?
2. What did it cost God to have His Son, Jesus to die?
  - What kind of love does it take for a Father to give His Son than to die Himself?
  - What Father wouldn't immediately take His Son's place?
3. Does God love those who believe in His Son, then they fall away? Become untrue?
  - Peter fell away, backslid, ran away, but he was forgiven, and later won thousands to the Lord Jesus.
4. God never stops loving ANY person.

### III. GOD'S LOVE IS EVERLASTING

1. *Jeremiah 31:3* - Describes another difference between our love and God's love.
  - Our love is temporary, fleeting, God's love is permanent, everlasting.
2. If a father's son gets drunk, does drugs and swears and steals, should the father get angry? YES! If he loves that Son. So it is with us and the rest of humanity and God.
  - God loves us in all our sins and wanderings.
  - A father had a wayward son and the father even laid down in the doorway trying to keep the son home but the son stepped on and over his father to go on his wayward ways anyway.
  - Did the father care for his son?

### IV. GOD'S LOVE IS FOR ALL SINNERS

1. What the son did to his father who had laid down in the doorway is what sinners do to God's Son, Jesus Christ IF they continue on their sinful ways and die in their sins.
2. Some say, "God doesn't care about this world....etc.." How can God show His love for us any plainer? Any more clearer?
3. Take some time, look up in the Bible how many times the word "love" is used in expressing God's feelings for us and all people.
4. Everything God has placed on us is out of love - "...*Adam, where art thou?...*"
5. What father with a sick child wouldn't trade places with that sick child? Would you, dad?
6. God loves us so much, more than anyone can ever understand or imagine. God's Son laid down His life for us.
7. Would a mother/father with nine (9) children love that problem, troublesome one of the nine any less than the other eight (8)?

### V. GOD'S LOVE IS UNDESERVED

1. "If I became good, God will love me...!" (*Revelation 1:5*)
  - No! God loved us first before He cleanses us.
  - Turn from my sins, get saved - but it is Jesus Christ who saves, then cleanses.
2. God loves all nations, people, Churches, individual souls.
3. If God has cast our sins away after our being saved, who can ever bring them back?

### CONCLUSION:

1. Our love fails but God's love does not. You will never meet a person that God doesn't love or want to save. God loves you, come to Him right now just as you are.